

2 REDEYE | TUESDAY

2do » Find recipes to make at home at makinglife better.com

To watch

See the opening of "Goldbrick" at 8 p.m. Tuesday at The Building Stage (412 N. Carpenter St.). The dark comedy about immigration features a live band, two actors and video projection. Tickets are \$15-\$27.50 at collaboraction.org.

To budget

Find out exactly how much you're saving by cooking instead of ordering out at makinglifebetter.com, which offers recipes with nutritional values and a price per serving.

To teach

Looking for a good way to travel? Volunteer to spend a month teaching English in China, Belarus or Turkey through Bridges for Education at bridges4edu.org.

To support

Shop at the new merrell.com Web site during February and for every purchase, \$5 will be donated to the Youth Outdoors Legacy Fund.

Aye, aye txtable

Text us a funny caption for the photo at right and we'll print the best in an upcoming issue of RedEye. To give it a shot, text the word "caption" followed by your brief caption and your name to 47383. Good luck!

MONDAY'S WINNER»

"If ya like it then you shoulda put a ring on it!" -Charmayne Frazier

Smiley



Latifah



Celebrity twin

Do you look like a celebrity? Show us! Send your picture along with the name of the celeb who shares your style to dlhernandez@tribune.com. For Tuesday, we have Cynthia Smiley. Think she's a ringer for Queen Latifah? Text "cynthia" and the number of your opinion to 47383. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1. Dead on 2. Way off



Cold's back. Maybe snow too.



Sunny,

Warmer chilly



YES!



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rebruary 3, 2009 I redeye



Phelps forgiven?

Many speculate scandal may affect pocketbook but 2 sponsors supportive

Associated Press

Michael Phelps is unbeatable in the water. It's on dry land where he runs into trouble.

Phelps has embarrassed himself again after a triumphant Olympics, this time getting his picture snapped as he inhaled from a marijuana pipe. The photo wound up in a British tabloid Sunday, forcing Phelps to publicly apologize.

"I'm 23 years old and despite the successes I've had in the pool, I acted in a youthful and inappropriate way, not in a manner people have come to expect from me," Phelps said in the statement released by one of his agents. "For this, I am sorry. I promise my fans and the public it will not happen again."

It all sounded so familiar, with good reason. After the 2004 Athens Games, an underage Phelps was arrested for drunken driving, pleaded guilty and apologized to his fans, say-

ing he wouldn't make the same mistake again.

This was different, to be sure, but it could have the same damaging impact on Phelps' image and reputation, which were riding high after he won a record eight gold medals at the Beijing Games.

Many have speculated his actions could hit him in the pocketbook, as embarrassed sponsors might reconsider their dealings with a swimmer who hopes to earn \$100 million in endorsements.

BACK IN THE POOL

Phelps returned to the pool a couple of weeks ago to begin preparations for this summer's world championships in Rome. He plans to take part in his first post-Olympics meet in early March, a Grand Prix event in Austin, Texas. While not condoning his behavior, two of Phelps' leading sponsors on Monday expressed support for the Olympic great. Luxury Swiss watchmaker Omega termed Phelps' actions a private matter and "nonissue." Swim wear manufacturer Speedo called him a "valued member of the Speedo team."

Speedo gave Phelps a \$1 million bonus for his record eight gold medals at the Beijing Olympics.

News of the World said the picture in question was taken during a November house party while Phelps was visiting the University of South Carolina. During that trip, he attended one of the school's football games and received a big ovation when introduced to the crowd.

Phelps and his advisers did not dispute the authenticity of the photo.

The party occurred nearly three months after the Olympics, and his actions should have no impact on his medals.

Jason Lezak, whose remarkable anchor leg of the 400-meter freestyle relay helped Phelps stay on course for eight golds, said he was "saddened" to hear of the report.

"While I don't condone his conduct, I am a teammate and fan," Lezak said in a text message to the AP. "Unlike many fair-weather people, I am sticking by him. If my wife and I can help him in any way, we will."

Blagoje-blitz: Part 2

Associated Press

Tuesday's forecast for the nation includes another healthy dose of Blagojevich.

A publicist says former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich wants to reiterate his innocence in another slew of TV appearances including the "Late Show with David Letterman."

Days after being booted from office, Blagojevich will appear Tuesday on NBC's "Today" show, CNN's "Larry King Live," Fox's "On the Record with Greta Van Susteren" and Letterman's show.

Publicist Glenn Selig says the former governor is "very concerned people think he let them down."

Blagojevich went on a media blitz last week, even boycotting part of his impeachment trial in the Illinois Senate to appear on ABC's "The View," "Good Morning, America" and Larry King's show, among others. He repeatedly asserted he'd done nothing wrong and called his impeachment trial in Springfield unfair.

He was removed from office Thursday by unanimous vote.



Cruel, cruel winter

Curse you, groundhog.

Punxsutawney Phil (above), the world's famous weather-predicting groundhog, saw his shadow Monday morning in Pennsylvania—meaning, according to lore, that we're in for an extra six weeks of winter, The Associated Press reports.

(Closer to home, "Woodstock Willie," a groundhog in suburban Woodstock, also saw his shadow. Nice going, Willie.)

In case you haven't noticed, this particular Chicago winter has been about as enjoyable as taking a bath in hydrochloric acid.

So RedEye proposes these quiet acts of rebellion to express our disappointment in groundhogs, for surely they are to blame:

- » Locate and apprehend Sonic the Hedgehog. Different species of animal, yes, but when has logic ever stopped an angry mob?
- » A one-day boycott of the movie "Groundhog Day." (Full disclosure: We probably won't honor this pledge. It's a movie classic, and Bill Murray has only ever been good to this city.)
- » Make Punxsutawney Phil wait 20 minutes for a bus on a typically freezing morning. It's the only way he'll learn. REDEYE

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QUICK BIO

kkyles @tribune.com

Who's the new guy? Interim CTA President Dorval Carter steps into the job after 10 years of directing the planning and operations for a number of the agency's departments, including:

- » Human resources
- » Public affairs
- »Finance

New leadership, letters and lost items

Am I the only one feeling dumped by CTA-turned-CPS head honcho Ron Huberman? It's been a week since he was tapped to serve as chief executive of public schools and what have we heard from him? Zip. No customer alert. No heartfelt letter on **transitchicago.com** thanking us for the wild ride.

Oh well. At least we riders still have each other and, as of Friday, Interim CTA President Dorval Carter. Oh yeah, and one more thing: loads of reader letters.

Bright spot: bus operator

I know the CTA can be awful between the crowded buses and trains, waiting in the cold for what seems like forever. But for once, I have something good to say about them.

I ride the No. 22-Clark bus every Wednesday and Thursday, in the mornings around 6:30 a.m. and get picked up at the Newport stop. This winter has been freezing, as we all know, and it is absolutely miserable to be waiting in the snow.

TELL US

As always, send your CTA kudos, complaints and questions to **goingpublic@tribune.com**, and please include your full name, age and neighborhood.

But I have no qualms about it when bus driver #30934 is driving. He is always on time, no matter what, and is the nicest, cheeriest man to drive a bus I have ever seen.

-AMBER PICHIOTINO, 24, LAKEVIEW

Lost: Desperately seeking shuffle

I lost my black-and-gray Mountain Hardwear jacket, and in the pocket was my newly purchased engraved iPod shuffle. It is bright blue and on the back in small print it says: "fly like paper, high like planes."

-K.C. BRIGHT, 27, BUCKTOWN

Lost: Phone and a funky fly hat

On [Jan. 9] at approximately midnight, I lost my Motorola L6 cell phone and a white Adidas winter hat. I was riding the Red Line toward 95th and exited at Grand. As soon as the train pulled away from the station after I got off, I noticed my missing items. I contacted the CTA personnel working that night and he kindly gave me the CTA lost and found number.

The cell phone is essentially [crap] but I have all my contacts in the phone that I hope to retrieve. And it's a pretty cute hat. Now my head is cold. —LISA SANZENBACHER. 27. RIVER WEST

Found: The notebook

Thanks to a Good Samaritan this morning at the Green Line's 35th-Bronzeville-IIT Station, I magically and miraculously recovered a red spiral notebook that is my journal of notes for work and for life.

Many thanks to the CTA passenger or staff member who found it, and thanks as well to the CTA attendant who displayed the notebook in the window of her booth so I would spot it.

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-DOUGLASS DAVIDOF, 51, BRONZEVILLE



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st Offer available at participating centers only. stBased on a stratified sample of 94 men over a six-year period.

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<u>5</u>

WEDNESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY ONLY!

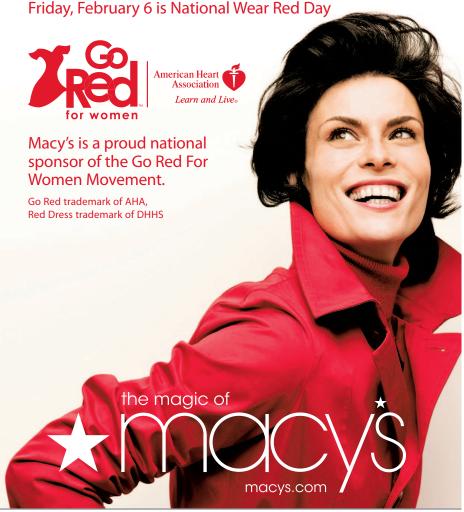
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IT'S A WHOLE NEW DAY

6 **COVERSTORY** REDEVE I TUESDAY



SPENDER BENDER

FOR SOME PEOPLE, SHOPPING IS A DANGEROUS COMPULSION THAT WRECKS THEIR FINANCES

By Alexia Elejalde-Ruiz

REDEYE

When Jesse Breshears saw the 5-inch Christian Louboutin platform heels, she had to have them. Marked down from \$610 to \$160, the deal was too good to pass up. Same with the Jimmy Choos. At \$200, an irresistible bargain.

Not that she could afford these designer duds. Breshears, now 22 and living in Lincoln Park, was a college student at the time her penchant for shopping went into overdrive. Her part-time job at a clothing store didn't so much help cover the bills as compel her to shop more.

By the time she was 20, Breshears said, she had nine credit cards and \$5,000 in credit card debt. Phone calls from unknown numbers filled her with "overwhelming dread," she said, as she feared creditors were calling to collect payment.

Breshears is trying to bounce back from her foray into financial turmoil, but the shopping itch is tough to shake.

"I don't go out to parties, I don't go to bars; I shop," said Breshears, who works as a store manager at Barney's Co-Op in Lincoln Park. "And I have nowhere to wear the things I buy."

Plenty of people get a kick out of shopping, and some zealous shoppers embrace the "shopaholic" designation as a mark of their fashion enthusiasm. In "Confessions of a Shopaholic," a movie to be released this month based on the best-selling book series by Sophie Kinsella, the heroine (Isla Fisher) keeps an emergency credit card in a block of ice in her freezer and has a catfight in a department store over a pair of Prada boots.

But some people struggle with serious consequences of shopaholism—or what psychologists call "compulsive buying."

Even as many Americans shut their wallets to weather the economic storm, others are finding the down economy is

RETAILERS SHOUT 'SALE!'

The steeply discounted merchandise at stores isn't just tempting—it's in your face.

Usually, retailers tuck sale items at the back of the store and showcase fresh, full-price merchandise up front. Not in this turbulent economy. Merchants are trumpeting markdowns at the front of the store and even in their windows in hopes of drawing reluctant shoppers through the door.

Fewer than 5 percent of shoppers say they will pay full price for an item compared with 11 percent a year ago, according to an America's Research Group survey of 1,000 shoppers last month. TRIBUNE

exacerbating their urge to splurge.

"Some people will be forced to cut back, but some will become more compulsive in their shopping because they're so frightened by the economic situation, and shopping is the drug they use to calm themselves down," said Dr. Robert Galatzer-Levy, a psychiatrist on the faculty of the Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis and the University of Chicago.

The steep discounts at many retailers provide additional temptation, said Terrence Shulman, founder and director of the Shulman Center for Compulsive Theft and Spending, locat-

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ed in Franklin, Mich.

Latoya Tucker, a 26-year-old selfprofessed shopaholic who lives in Des Plaines, said she recently went to Woodfield Mall to buy a gift for her sister and ended up spending four hours there checking out all the sales.

"It's like shopaholic heaven," Tucker said. "They were giving away stuff. They had shoes marked down from \$80 to \$15."

Tucker, a marketing manager, said she's compulsive in her shopping. It's rare for her to go into a store without buying something, and she returns items so often she called herself a "return-aholic." When she can't return an item, she sells it on eBay.

"Shopping is kind of like going out drinking," Tucker said. "Maybe I've had a bad day, or I need to get my mind off something."

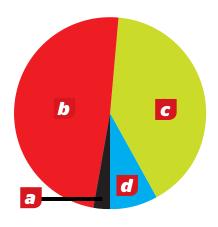
Tucker two years ago had racked up \$10,000 in debt, 70 percent to 80 percent of it from shopping, she said. It wasn't until she started her own fashion event production company, L' Shanell Event Productions, in 2007 that Tucker said she started to turn herself around, as her priority became investing in her business.

The line between zealous and compulsive shopping is a blurry one, but ultimately shopping becomes problematic when it causes negative consequences—be they financial, in relationships, with time management or self-esteem, Shulman said. Shopping addicts often lie about their shopping, feel like they can't control it, and have a deep sense of shame about it, he said. Eventually, it can become like a drug, providing a temporary high they constantly crave.

"It's regarded as a psychological problem when it interferes with life and is no longer pleasurable," Galatzer-Levy said.

A 2006 Stanford University Medical Center study found that about 5.8 percent of Americans are compulsive buyers, with a slightly higher prevalence among women than men (6 percent of women and 5.5 percent of men).

The American Psychiatric Association is considering including "compulsive buying disorder" in the fifth edition of the Diagnostic



POLL POSITION

RedEye polled its Twitter followers on this question: When does a deal become impossible to resist? Here are the results. Your chance to be featured is just a click away. Sign up at twitter.com/redeyechicago. COMPILED BY SCOTT KLEINBERG

When a an item is 33% off 3%

When an item is 60% off 41%

When an item is 50% off

When an item is buy one, get one

Total: 37 votes

Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (the DSM), out in 2012, which would make it an official mental illness in the eyes of doctors, courts, pharmaceutical companies and insurance compa-

That's a controversial move, but ultimately "oniomania," the medical term for compulsive shopping, is taken more seriously now than it used to be, Galatzer-Levy said. He recommends psychotherapy, though some anti-depressants and anti-anxiety medications have been shown to help lessen shopping compulsion when depression or anxiety are the underlying problems. Credit counseling and Debtors Anonymous meetings also offer support.

For 20-year-old Alicia Owen of Columbus, Ohio, a shopping obsession driven by "low self-esteem and horrible self-image" quickly spiraled out of control.

By the time she was 19, Owen was \$20,000 in debt. Her electricity was shut off several times for failure to pay her electric bill, and her furniture was repossessed after she couldn't make payments to the furniture rental com-

Owen, whose shopping problem was featured on MTV's "True Life" in July, is trying to dig herself out of the hole. She has paid down \$3,000 of her debt. And she goes to weekly Debtors Anonymous meetings, sees a therapist and plans her life around avoiding malls.

"Simple things, like going to the store to get toilet paper, is a stressful thing," said Owen, who has had to put college on hold while she sorts out her finances.

People get hooked on shopping to varying degrees and for different rea-

Danielle Lutz, 34, of Bucktown said she's addicted to the thrill of "the hunt" and the euphoric feeling she gets when she finds the best of what she's looking for.

Lutz—who turned her shopping obsession into a business, Shop Walk, which tours Chicago boutiques—said she never went into major debt, but she has been late to dates because she was shopping, and she estimates that at one point she owned 30 pairs of black pants.

Sarah Sands, store manager of Akira-Women in Bucktown, said the shopaholics who come into her store have been undeterred by the prospect of economic Armageddon. (She considers shopaholics to be regulars who spend at least \$1,000 per month in her store.)

Though staff will tell their customers honestly if they think something looks terrible, they don't interfere if the purchase seems excessive, Sands

"As much as we know about them, we don't know their situation, what they can afford or how much stuff they actually have," Sands said.

"It's really not our place to sit here and judge people."

AELEJALDERUIZ@TRIBUNE.COM

txtable

Are you a compulsive shopper?

Debt. Bankruptcy. Strained relationships with family and friends. Most people don't confront their shopping problem until it wreaks havoc on their lives.

Sometimes the consequences are severe. In 2001, Chicagoan Elizabeth Roach was convicted of embezzling nearly \$250,000 from her employer to finance her shopping binges. She got a reduced sentence after her defense team argued she used shopping to self-medicate her depression. Last month, a 77year-old British woman was found buried in her home under a three-foot pile of suitcases full of shopping purchases, which apparently had fallen when she was looking for something. The Daily Mail reported that her home was packed with brand-new items and she owned some 300 scarves.

But even without any tangible consequences, compulsive shopping can be problematic.

A study published in December in the Journal of Consumer Research presents a new scale to measure compulsive buying tendencies. Unlike prior tests, it doesn't measure the consequences of shopping addiction, like maxing out your credit cards, but rather the behavior itself.

"A person who has a good income could still be very compulsive, but not have to suffer the consequences," said marketing professor Kent Monroe of the University of Champaign-Urbana and the University of Richmond, who coauthored the study with two other University of Richmond professors.

The new scale takes into account both obsessive-compulsive buying (repetitive buying and constant preoccupation with shopping) and impulsive buying (the inability to control the urge to purchase something). Assess your level of agreement with each of the six statements below on a scale from 1 to 7 (1 = "strongly disagree" and 7 = "strongly agree").



"My closet has unopened shopping bags in it."

1 ||| 2 ||| 3 ||| 4 ||| 5 ||| 6 ||| 7

"Others might consider me a 'shopaholic.'"

1 ||| 2 ||| 3 ||| 4 ||| 5 ||| 6 ||| 7

"Much of my life centers around buying things."

1 ||| 2 ||| 3 ||| 4 ||| 5 ||| 6 ||| 7

"I buy things I don't need."

1 ||| 2 ||| 3 ||| 4 ||| 5 ||| 6 ||| 7

"I buy things I did not plan to buy."

1 ||| 2 ||| 3 ||| 4 ||| 5 ||| 6 ||| 7

"I consider myself an impulse purchaser."



If your scores add up to 25 or more, you have compulsive buying tendencies, Monroe said. ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ

SHOP OR STOP?

How has the economy affected your shopping habits? Text "shop" and the number of your answer to 47383. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1) I have cut way back on the shopping. 2) I'm totally taking advantage of the deals out there now. 3) What recession?

8 REDEYE I TUESDAY

chicago

Peterson's ex-girlfriend: Engagement a media stunt



Chicago Tribune

The supposed former fiance of Drew Peterson appeared Monday on national TV and called their purported engagement a "stunt" cooked up by his lawyer to garner publicity.

In response, Peterson's attorney and his publicist claimed that Peterson and Christina Raines, 24, were engaged, but that it was never meant to be made public. They blamed an author of a book on Peterson for releasing the engagement news.

Appearing on the CBS "Early Show" with her father, Ernie Raines, in her first full interview since her relationship with Peterson was disclosed in December, Christina Raines quietly answered questions.

She said she was never engaged to the 55-yearold former Bolingbrook police sergeant, who is the suspect in his current wife's October 2007 disappearance.

But Raines and Peterson were dating and living together in his Bolingbrook home until Raines and her two children moved out on Friday. She said Monday the engagement talk was a publicity stunt.

"[Peterson] had told me that his lawyer had wanted him to be in the media and wanted to propose to someone at a restaurant," Raines told the interviewer.

Peterson declined to comment, but Peterson's attorney, Joel Brodsky, insisted that the engagement was no stunt.

"We vehemently deny that there was any media stunt," Brodsky said.

During Monday's interview, Christina Raines said she'd known Peterson since she was about 15 but that she met him recently at a bar.

Raines also said she knew Stacy Peterson. She was asked if Drew Peterson had talked of Stacy after she went missing.

"I don't feel comfortable answering that right now," she said.

She had similar responses when asked whether she thinks Drew had anything to do with Stacy's disappearance or his third wife's death.



Lane Bryant memorial

Relatives of Sarah Szafranski, a victim in the Lane Bryant shootings, embrace Monday after a memorial service in Tinley Park. The service marked the one-year anniversary of the shootings that killed five women. scottstrazzante/tribune

Ooooh, kinky!

Chicago Tribune

Inspiration can strike at odd times. Anthony Mikrut got the idea for his business at about 3 one morning, when he and a girlfriend were in search of some ... uh ... products to enhance their ... er ... special evening.

"We figured you can get pizza any time of night," he said. "Why can't you get [sex] toys?"

Thus was born the Kinky Llama, a purveyor of adult goods that promises one-hour delivery—by bicycle, no less—to most places in Chicago. Mikrut, 33, said the company has been around for 21/2 years and that, despite the recession, he's busier than ever.

"I think people like to have a little fun when they're not having the best time in the market," he said. His West Town home office holds about 1,500 items, from videos to marital aids to specially designed furniture, and he tosses his wares into a bag or bike trailer when it's time for a delivery. So far, he said, all of his rush orders have been at night or in the early morning—and almost all are from women.



Anthony Mikrut operates a home-delivery sex toy service out of his West Town home.

MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE

That surprised him; he figured men would be the ones driven by a certain urgency. But one of his customers, Alexandra Blom, said women's desire for quick service could stem from shopping habits as much as libido.

"Men might be more thought-out about it," said Blom, 28, a North Side artist. "I usually buy something in the moment of wanting it."

He said his goal is to open a classy adult boutique.



Life for Joey 'the Clown'

Mobster Joev "the Clown" Lombardo, one of the five Outfit associates convicted in the landmark Family Secrets trial that riveted Chicago for weeks with its lurid testimony about 18 decades-old gangland slayings, was sentenced Monday to life in prison. "The worst things you have done are terrible, and I see no regret in you," U.S. District Judge James Zagel told Lombardo in handing down the life sentence.

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DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP SERVICE SKOKIE

10 nation/world from news services ★ REDEYE I TUESDAY

Farmer protest

Riot police fired tear gas at farmers Monday to prevent them from driving their tractors to Athens to demand government financial help. At least two people were injured in the demonstrations.

2 American kidnapped

Gunmen in Quetta, Pakistan, kidnapped an American who is a UN official and fatally shot his driver Monday, the latest in a recent series of high-profile kidnappings and targeted hits on foreigners, according to Pakistani police officials.

Most wanted

A Saudi-owned TV network says the Saudi government has issued a list of its 83 most wanted suspects living abroad and asked the Interpol for help in arresting them.

Ramsey case

The investigation of JonBenet Ramsey's slaying has been returned to police in Boulder, Colo., who say they will apply new technology and expertise in hopes of solving the 12-year-old case.

Holder confirmed

Eric Holder won Senate confirmation Monday as the nation's first African-American attorney general. The vote was 75-21, with all of the opposition coming from Republicans.

Octuplets offers

The mother of the longest-living octuplets in the U.S. is being deluged with offers for book deals, TV shows and other business proposals, but has not decided what she might do other than care for her children, her newly hired spokeswoman said Monday in L.A.

DIGIT

7,000

Macy's announced Monday that it will cut 7,000 jobs, almost 4 percent of its work force, reduce its contributions to its employees' retirement funds and slash its dividend to preserve cash amid a severe pullback in consumer spending.

Sailors trained to fight pirates

With an alarming number of tankers and cargo ships getting hijacked on the high seas, the nation's maritime academies are offering more training to merchant seamen in how to fend off attacks from pirates armed not with cutlasses and flintlocks but automatic weapons and grenade launchers.

Colleges are teaching students to fishtail their vessels at high speed, drive off intruders with high-pressure water hoses and illuminate their decks with floodlights.

Anti-piracy training is not new. Nor are the techniques. But the lessons have taken on new urgency—and more courses are planned—because of the record number of attacks worldwide in 2008 by outlaws who seize ships and hold them for ransom.

At the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, Calif., professor Donna Nincic teaches two courses on piracy.

"If I've done anything, I've shown them that this isn't a joke, it's not about parrots and eye patches and Blackbeard and all that," Nincic said.

"It's very real and it's a problem without an easy solution."

BY THE NUMBERS

In 2008:

- >> 293 piracy incidents were reported, up 11 percent from 2007
- >> 49 vessels were hijacked
- >> 889 crew members were taken hostage
- >> 11 were killed
- >> 21 were reported missing and presumed dead

SOURCE: THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME RURFAU



London crawling

It was hardly a blizzard, but it still shut down London. The biggest snowfall to hit the city in 18 years idled the city's trademark red buses and Underground trains Monday. stranded thousands of airline passengers, and raised the vexing question of why a predicted winter storm caught authorities so unprepared.

BLOOMBERG NEWS

Lawmakers fall flat

TRENTON, N.J. New Jersey lawmakers are singing the same old tune—nothing.

They put off a vote Monday on choosing four state songs, leaving the state the only one without an official ditty.

A state Senate panel considered a bill that would have adopted an official state anthem, children's song, popular song and ballad.

Republican Sen. Kevin O'Toole derided the bill for proposing several songs instead of one. Democratic Sen. Loretta Weinberg says the state should solve the economic crisis instead.

Efforts to adopt a state song date to 1960.

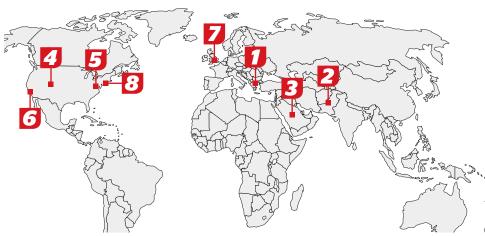
Twitter tune
We asked RedEye's Twitter followers

to choose a state song for New
Jersey. Here are some of the best.
Make beautiful music with RedEye at
twitter.com/redeyechicago.

@jhimm "f'ged-aboudit"

@ryantryzbiak Born To Run? Surely it must be by the Boss, no?

@KBarrick "New York, New York" with drunk guys yelling JERSEY over the "York" parts.



FEBRUARY 3, 2009 I REDEYE



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12 REDEYE | TUESDAY

Bigwigs thinking bigger

The day after the Winter Classic, which drew high ratings on NBC and raves from those who witnessed it, **Blackhawks President** John McDonough huddled with execs to discuss how they could have done it better.

"One, win," McDonough said, referring to Detroit's 6-4 victory over the Hawks. "Two, it would have been nice if the goal horn had worked [throughout the game].

"We're never, ever satisfied."

McDonough uses two words to challenge and motivate his 60-person staff: "Think bigger."

Big would have been signing a new radio deal. Bigger was partnering with WGN-AM 720, whose signal stretches to Canada on clear nights.

Big would have been putting a few home games on TV. Bigger was convincing Pat Foley to return to call every home game.

Big would have been boosting home attendance. Bigger is to sell out every seat for all 41 games and lead the league in attendance, goals within reach.

Big is pushing the NHL to award Chicago a draft. Bigger? Hosting an All-Star Game.

"We come from the Cubs, the top of the mountain," Hawks VP Jay Blunk said. "That's our reference point. Until we're as big as that, we're not going to be satisfied." TRIBUNE



FEBRUARY 3, 2009 I REDEYE

A new ice age

Blackhawks making big return to city's sports landscape

Chicago Tribune

Patrick Kane returned from Toronto in June to anything but a hero's welcome.

Kane walked through O'Hare's C Concourse with a replica Calder Trophy, awarded to the NHL's top rookie. The City of Big Shoulders, consumed with pennant races, Derrick Rose and Brian Urlacher's salary drive, feted Kane with one giant shrug.

"Not one person turned their head," recalled Jay Blunk, Blackhawks senior vice president. "As we waited for the luggage, I said to him, 'If we do our job right, you won't be able to walk through this airport in another year.'"

Or less.

Last month, Kane, flanked by teammates Jonathan Toews and Brian Campbell, walked through the same concourse after returning from the All-Star Game in Montreal.

This time, Blunk noticed, people got whiplash when Kane passed them on the walkway. Several pointed at Kane, who was wearing a black stocking cap, and others snagged signatures at baggage claim.

"It wasn't the Beatles," Blunk said, "but it was a huge contrast."

Turning toward Hawks President John McDonough, Blunk added: "John signed a few autographs."

"How sad is that?" McDonough responded.

That self-deprecation is genuine. Ask McDonough what's left to accomplish after transforming the Hawks from irrelevance to the NHL's attendance leader and his answer is surprisingly simple: everything.

"The car is just backing out of the garage," he said. "We haven't even hit the



Andrew Ladd (right) and the rest of the Blackhawks have been a big hit at the United Center this season—so far, all 23 games have been sold out. GETTY IMAGES

street yet."

By many measures, he's right.

Although TV ratings on Comcast SportsNet have improved 83 percent over last year, the Hawks are averaging just 38,500 viewers per game. The Bulls, in a dismal season, are drawing about 70,000 sets of eyes per game. The Cubs averaged 175,000 last year, and the Sox drew 77,000.

ESPN the Magazine's most recent "fan satisfaction" rankings (released in April) listed the Hawks as 88th out of 122 pro teams, a 30-spot rise from 2007. The White Sox ranked 58th, the Bears 81st, the Cubs 95th and the Bulls 97th.

In the latest report from Scarborough Research, a mere 16 percent of Chicagoans identified themselves as Hawks fans. That is double the 8 percent in 2007 but lags miles behind the Bears (63), Cubs (56), Sox (44) and Bulls (36).

"In many ways this is a 75-year-old expansion franchise," said McDonough, who was hired away from the Cubs for his marketing savvy. "Fans have never seen a home game from their living rooms. If you're between 6 and 20 years old, a college student or a young hockey player, this is like a new X Game you've have never seen before."

The Hawks are 23-for-23 in home sellouts. And they packed Wrigley Field for the Winter Classic. What now?

"Win," McDonough said. "We want to make the playoffs. That's next. ...

"I love what [coach] Joel Quenneville said the other day at his press conference: 'I'm tired of hearing how good we are.' That resonates loudly with me.

"We haven't achieved anything yet."

Hockey All-Stars score with Chevy deal

Need proof the Blackhawks have gone mainstream? It will come Tuesday, when the team announces a major endorsement deal with Chevrolet.

The automaker will join forces with Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews for

hockey-themed print, radio and TV ads, plus digital media campaigns.

"We have a strong history of working with who is hot—Michael Jordan, Dan Hampton, Lou Piniella, Ozzie Guillen, and now Patrick and Jonathan," said Tom Gollinger, president of the Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana Chevy dealers. "A message is only relevant if you break through the clutter and are actually heard. We expect to be heard loud and clear through these great young players." **TRIBUNE**

Is the Super Bowl really that super?

The Super Bowl. The biggest sporting event in the world. It's like another birthday.

And I missed it.

It's not as bad as it seems. I'm studying abroad in London and on a vacation in Athens. When I scheduled it, I didn't realize it



was Super Bowl Sunday, not that it would have really stopped me anyway.

Don't get me wrong. I'm a huge sports fan. I won my fantasy football league this year. I've watched the Super Bowl every year; in fact, my gambling career highlight came when I bet that Paul McCartney would remove an article of clothing at halftime. I've never been happier at a 60-year-old taking his jacket off.

I was all right with missing the game until I was walking along the Acropolis, then it hit me. I felt un-American. Not a real sports fan.

But in Europe, it's not a big deal. British "mates" had to ask me what sport it was. And in Greece, I haven't seen one sign for a Super Bowl party. (Not that I could read it if I did.) I thought it would be interesting to watch with Europeans, only to realize they wouldn't be up at 1 a.m. for the start of a game if they didn't even know what sport it was.

With my plans to wake up at 8 a.m. and explore, it didn't make sense.

As I thought back on Super Bowls past, they really weren't that big of a deal. All I remember about last year's game was The Helmet Catch and that I had Ben and Jerry's. No commercials, couldn't tell you the halftime performer, not to mention the final score. Granted, if my team was in the Super Bowl, it would be a whole different story, mostly because at least 30 other teams would have had to fold for the Lions to make it.

Super Bowls are about being with your friends, making crazy bets and turning into professional commercial critics on the spot; hopefully you did that. Alone in Athens, I couldn't.

But I can't help feeling this is sacrilege and the Sports Gods won't forgive me. Maybe I should honor them somehow. They have to have a temple here.

Please say it wasn't close. **scott bolohan** is a redeve special contributor.

Tweet this

Today's panel includes RedEye's Twitter followers from @redeyechicago. For your shot, sign up at twitter.com/ redeyechicago.



TRACY SWARTZ tswartz@tribune.com

The streak depends on whether the Bulls cover the Rockets.

Hawks: Best Canadian exports

since Canadian bacon and

Better than Rahula's chances at winning a rap battle with Joaquin Phoenix.

LEO EBERSOLE

lebersole@tribune.com

As far as I know, the Bulls' sellout streak is matched only by "PepSuber's."

I ... don't have a clue. This is a

league that still features the

His nipples have pitched a

Phoenix Coyotes, yes?

shirt-tent.

Sure, with all those victories over the Red Wings as tiebreakers-oh, wait.

RAHULA STROHL

rstrohl@tribune.com

can't play.

The Ice Capades.

Whatever the chances are

Yao Ming gets injured and

He's so jittery he's gone bald. What? He was like that already? Ooh, bad luck.

twitter.com/redeyechicago

As much chance as it hitting 80 degrees in Chicago this week. @phantomtweeter

Blackhawks are king ... Get to see more than a regular basketball court! @dishelly

Judging by the way Detroit as a whole is going ... the Hawks can

catch the Lions too. @JGHue "He's as happy as a little

girl."-Dieter from Sprockets. @Outsanity

The Catastrophy. (The costume would include cat ears.) @ kamilf



What are the chances the Bulls keep their win streak alive in Houston?

Who is king of the United

Center: the resurgent

The Hawks are within 7

It's just a couple weeks

until Spring Training. How

points of 1st-place Detroit.

Hawks or the same of Bulls?

Will they catch them?

excited is Jimmy?

100 percent. Let's just say I

JIMMY GREENFIELD

jgreenfield@tribune.com

know a guy.

The Blackhawks. Unless we're basing this on who's louder and more obnoxious.

They will not. But the Hawks

will go further in the playoffs.

My bat and balls are out and

Easily. Anyone can lure Detroit with a free meal and

career counseling.

extra U's in wourds.

It's the pattern of his pants. It's not flattering.

I'd have to go with Nipples.

Knowing the politically correct world of pro wrestling, probably The Cab Driver.



Gern Blanston.

American Red Cross

ready to go.

The Pundertaker.



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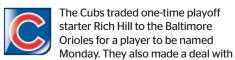
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Suite 212A Park Ridge, IL 847.823.2200 FEBRUARY 3, 2009 I REDEYE from news services shortstops

HOMETOWN HITS I





Oakland, sending reliever Michael Wuertz to the Athletics for a pair of minor-leaguers. In the Oakland deal, the Cubs received outfielder Rich Robnett and infielder Justin Sellers.

TUESDAY'S GAMES

» DePaul vs. Marquette, 8 p.m., MeTV-Ch. 23

COLLEGE BASKETBALL UConn takes over No. 1

It's a new week, so there must be a new No. 1. This time it's Connecticut at the top of The Associated Press' college basketball poll, the fourth straight week with a new No. 1. Illinois is No. 23.

BASEBALL

Selig got \$3M raise in 2007

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig received a raise of about \$3 million to nearly \$17.5 million in 2007, according to Major League Baseball's latest tax return. His compensation was \$17,470,491 for the 12 months that ended Oct. 31, 2007, according to the return, available at **guidestar.org**.

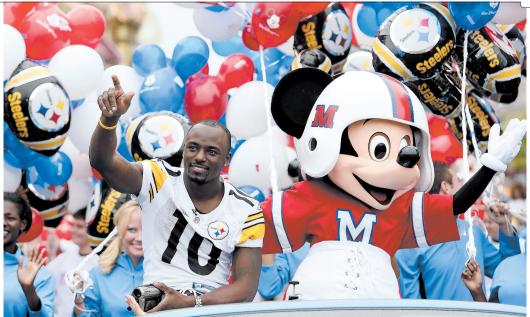


MOUTHWATCH

When I compete, I love to be there and fight for the win. Maybe I like more fighting to win than win."

RAFAEL NADAL

newly crowned Australian Open tennis champ, discussing his motivation.



Super Bowl MVP Santonio Holmes of the Pittsburgh Steelers waves to fans Monday during a victory parade down Main Street USA at Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom. GETTY IMAGES

Super Bowl lives up to the hype

TAMPA Super Super Bowls are becoming a habit.

The Steelers' 27-23 win Sunday night over Arizona was another classic in an era of great games—"a game for the ages," commissioner Roger Goodell called it.

Indeed, with a few exceptions (notably Ravens 34,

Giants 7 in 2001) fans have been treated to a decade's worth of rousing NFL championships.

Consider that the typical Super Bowl score from 1980-99 was 35-17.

But starting in 2000, when Tennessee's Kevin Dyson was tackled a yard short of the goal-line with what would have been the tying touchdown in a 23-16 loss to St. Louis, the games generally have been worthy of their immense hype.

Six of the last 10 Super Bowls have been decided by a touchdown or less.

The Rams' winning score against the Titans came with 1:53 left on a 73-yard TD pass to Isaac Bruce from Kurt Warner, who brought the Cardinals back from a 13-point deficit Sunday

DANICA A HIT

The Go Daddy Web site's "enhancement" ad with Danica Patrick was the most-watched commercial in the Super Bowl. TiVo made that determination by combining the number of people who watched the ad live and went back to see it again on their digital video recorder.

before the Steelers' final drive.

Warner also had to watch from sidelines in 2002 as Tom Brady drove the Patriots to the winning field goal against the Rams.

It wasn't the only similarity Sunday to Super Bowls past. In some ways, this year's edi-

tion mirrored last season's.

The winning TD came on a pass from Ben Roethlisberger to Santonio Holmes with 35 seconds left, the same time remaining a year ago when the Giants scored to beat New England 17-14. The Steelers' game-winning drive started from their own 22 with 2:42 left in the game; the Giants' drive began from their 17 with 2:39 remaining.

It's a game Pittsburghers certainly will remember for a long time. It might even have been the best in the recent run of title-game dramas. There were 23 points scored in the final $7^{1}/_{2}$ minutes of the game. Sixteen straight were by the Cardinals to overcome a 20-7 deficit. But the Steelers got the final seven.



By Whizzer

I got shut out of Monday's RedEye, so I apologize for the delayed report. No, I wasn't trying to avoid your scrutiny.

I fumbled this weekend's prediction, suggesting the Arizona Cardinals would beat the Pittsburgh Steelers in the Super Bowl, 31-19.

On Friday, I asked readers to text me their Super Bowl predictions in an attempt to outdo me. Many did, but just three of you sent me your name and score. So, I take my hat off to Troy Porter, Dan Bassie and Big Mama, who all picked the Steelers to win. Let's do it all again next football season, shall we?



Hello again. I had Super Bowl Sunday off, so I wasn't in the paper Monday.

Did you miss me? I said, did you miss me?

Ahem. I'll pretend you're just in a marijuana haze with Michael Phelps and don't want to answer.

Here now, my TV picks.





EDMONTON 8 p.m. CSN OK, so it's not the Super Bowl, but it's good hockey. Yeah, I

know. Watch anyway.



NBA BULLS AT HOUSTON

7:30 p.m. WCIU Yao Ming is more than a center. It's also what the Bulls will yell when he dunks on them.

BASKETBALL

WHO'S #1 7 p.m. ESPN2

Counting down the greatest dunkers. Do you really need to watch to know No. 1?

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FEBRUARY 3, 2009 I REDEYE ★

metromix

Magis tous

Tocco boldly goes where few restaurants have gone before

By M. Kathleen Pratt

There's a point along Milwaukee Avenue in Wicker Park that I used to refer to as the Lubinski Furniture Line. Named for one of the many cut-rate home furnishing stores along the street, it represented a point that for years, despite the boom to the northwest, few restaurants and bars dared to dip below.

Slowly, the nightspots and even an intrepid restaurant or two crept southeast, rendering my Lubinski Line obsolete. But even now it takes someone with a certain confidence to open a new restaurant more than a couple of blocks south of the line.

Someone like Bruno Abate. Less than two weeks ago, he and his wife, Melissa, opened new Italian eatery Tocco on the 1200 block of North Milwaukee Avenue.

Abate isn't unaccustomed to striking out on his own. He opened his first Chicago restaurant, Follia, in 2002 in the then nearly restaurant-free zone of Fulton Market. Today his neighbors include The Publican, Moto and Otom, as well as several nightlife newcomers.

In another bold move, there's no sign announcing Tocco. It's not even immediately evident that it's open, since the largest windows don't face the street and those that do are veiled by sheer black fabric.

Come summer, it will be harder to miss. The garage door-style windows along the south wall will open onto a 100-seat patio, which Abate plans to turn into a piazza of sorts, using the space to showcase the work of young designers, photographers and painters. Art is integral to Abate's vision for Tocco; even the name, which means "touch" in Italian, is a tribute to artistic talent.

"If you have the right touch, you can do

first look

Tocco 1266 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-687-8895 anything," he explains.
So does Abate have the touch?

When it comes to style and food, he says he does—and the well-heeled crowds that have been frequenting Tocco seem to agree.

To be fair, a nod should go to Melissa, who designed the bold,

Euro-chic space. It's done up in black, white and shades of red, with crimson leather covering some of the walls, charcoal mosaic tiles shimmering around the pizza ovens, and sturdy white and black tubes that double as wine storage hovering above the bar. The design is flashy and seductive, and as with all good art, there's bound to be some controversy. Some will find it daring; others might think it's a bit much. Either way, there's nothing else like it in this part of town.

The food, by contrast, is almost startling in its simplicity. There are no showy presentations and no confusing menu descriptions. Nothing requires lengthy explanations. Instead, familiar Italian dishes are executed well—in most cases, very well—putting fresh, authentic ingredients first.

Naples-style pizzas (\$12-\$18) with crackery crusts are the showpiece, with two woodfired ovens churning out 10 different options, from a reliable margherita (\$12) to an indulgent *bufala* (\$18) topped with silky buffalo mozzarella, melt-in-your-mouth prosciutto and fresh arugula.

Antipasti highlights include three different polentas, including a wonderful *polenta con gorgonzola* (\$6), a portion of soft, rich polenta finished in the oven to form a light crust on top. For a shining example of the clean, pronounced flavors that are Tocco's signature, try the *bresaola* (\$12), cured beef sliced paper thin and served with shaved parmigiano and arugula kissed with olive oil and lemon juice.

First courses are uncomplicated, showcasing house-made pastas such as pappardelle with tomatoes, basil, black pepper and garlic (\$12), and a yolky, peppery spaghetti carbonara studded with smoked bacon (\$12).

The menu is set up for sharing, so you could easily nibble your way through much of it without wanting for a proper entree. If you

do, expect straightforward second courses such as grilled chicken (\$16) and New York strip with mushrooms (\$20).

Almost nothing (the steaks are the exception) is more than \$18. Even the wine list, with about half the selections at \$30 or less, tops out at \$60 for a lone Super Tuscan.

Even if you're not the sort that's swayed by flashy design or enamored with honest flavors, it's hard not to be seduced by value these days. Abate has designed a spot where it's possible to have a great meal with wine for less than \$40 a person. And that's what we call the right touch.

M. KATHLEEN PRATT IS THE METROMIX DINING PRODUCER KPRATT@TRIBUNE.COM



18 REDEYE | TUESDAY

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BY REBECCA PALMORE rkpalmore@ tribune.com

TUESDAY DEAL

Cheap date

Landmark Century Centre Cinema. 2828 N. Clark St.

Every first Tuesday of the month. The Midwest Independent Film Festival honors locally produced films with a screening party. Tonight. see Lori Petty's 2008 drama, "The Poker House," starring Selma Blair and David Alan Grier, The party continues at Forno Diablo (433 W. Diversey Pkwy.) with free appetizers. Arrive at 6 p.m. for preshow cocktails (cash bar), \$10.

What a pair

Risque Cafe, 3419 N. Clark St. 773-525-7711.

Talk about teamwork: Chef Drew and Steve Cole (a.k.a. the Whiskey Professor) whip up a new monthly beer and bour-

bon dining series that already has us licking our chops. This month, Sierra Nevada beers complement four courses that incorporate several small-batch bourbons, including meatloaf sliders with Booker's barbecue sauce and Imperial Smoked Porter. 6 p.m. \$25-\$30.

First responders

The Second City e.t.c., 1608 N. Wells St. 312-337-3992.

Bringing funny to the frontlines of political scandal, Second City jokesters turn their attention to Illinois' former governor. "Rod **Blagojevich Superstar!"** spoofs '70s rock operas — most notably "Jesus Christ Superstar"—as fictional versions of Blago and wife take on the roles of Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene. 8:30 p.m. \$14.

Tube toppers

The Spot, 4437 N. Broadway.

Love is in the air—and riding the airwaves—as A Reasonable Facsimile Theatre Company (ARFTCo) revives its staged reading series, "TV Re-Runs!" with a special Valentine's edition. Hear scripts from "That '70's Show," "Family Ties" and more with special guests Vicky Quade (creator of "Late Night Catechism"), Steve Hickson (reigning Miss Looptopia) and others. 8 p.m. \$10.773-418-4475.

It's a group thing

Paddy Long's, 1028 W. Diversey Pkwy.

If the appeal of group drinking outweighs your more sober concerns for, say, sleeping, get Derailed. The monthly pub crawl features \$3 Coors Lights and \$5 cocktails at Lakeview bars Kirkwood (2934 N. Sheffield Ave.), Mad River (2909 N. Sheffield Ave.), Uncle Fatty's (2833 N. Sheffield Ave.) and Paddy Long's, where festivities begin. 7:30 p.m. No cover. 773-209-1580. Register: getderailed.com

Les is more

Betty's Blue Star Lounge, 1600 W. Grand Ave. 312-243-1699.

Ladies seeking red-hot diversions need to look no further than "Girlie-Q presents: Lonely Hearts Club," an exotic-dance party for women who love women. Ms. Bea Haven hosts performances by Cruel Valentine, Miss Holly Wouldn't, Maiden Sacrifice and others, with live music and an audience participation queer dating game, just in time for Valentine's Day. Take that, Cupid. 9 p.m. \$10.

HOW TO REACH US | FOR ENTERTAINMENT INFORMATION 24/7, GO TO METROMIX.COM.

Metromix is published Monday through Saturday as part of RedEye, an edition of the Chicago Tribune.

For questions, comments and story ideas, contact Matt McGuire, editor. at mmcguire@tribune. com

To submit event information for Metromix or metromix.com, go to metromix.com/listings.



42 DEGREES N. **LATITUDE**

Buy two appetizers get one free (5-10 p.m.), half-price bottles of wine; 4500 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-907-2226.

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\$3 select cocktails, \$4 half-pound burgers; 420 W. Belmont Ave. 773-248-6654.

BUTCH MCGUIRE'S

Half-price appetizers (5-10 p.m.), \$8 domestic pitchers; 20 W. Division St. 312-337-9080.

CAT'S MEOW

\$3 mini-burger trio, \$5 Effen vodka cocktails; 2700 W. Chicago Ave. 773-489-6998.

CHINA GRILL

5:30 p.m.: Mixology Class. Learn to concoct three Valentine's Day-inspired cocktails during a hands-on lesson with mixologist Robert Krass. Includes drink samples and appetizers. \$40; 230 N. Michigan Ave. 312-334-



5 filling all-youcan-eat deals

MOONSHINE

\$7 all-vou-can-eat beef tacos: 1824 W. Division St. 773-862-8686.

PARAMOUNT ROOM

\$14 all-you-can-eat fish and chips dinner; 415 N. Milwaukee Ave. 312-829-6300.

THE RAIL BAR & GRILL

\$3.99 all-you-can-eat spaghetti with garlic bread; 4709 N. Damen Ave. 773-878-9400.

T'S RESTAURANT AND BAR

\$12 all-you-can-eat fish and chips; 5025 N. Clark St. 773-784-6000.

WILD GOOSE BAR & GRILL

\$3.99 all-vou-can-eat spaghetti: 4265 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-281-7112.

HAPPY VILLAGE

\$2 PBR bottles; 1059 N. Wolcott Ave. 773-486-

LEG ROOM

\$2 house cocktails and cherry bombs, DJ Slim Maybe spins; 7 W. Division St. 312-337-2583.

MATISSE

\$2 sangrias, \$3 margaritas, \$6 taco plates; 674 W. Diversey Pkwy. 773-528-6670.

MYSTIC CELT

\$3 Bushmills shots, \$3.50 Smithwick's pints, \$5 Celt burger and fries; 3443 N. Southport Ave. 773-529-8550.

THE ORBIT ROOM

\$4 Domaine DuPage bottles, \$4 Angus burgers; 2959 N. California Ave. 773-588-8540.

POAG MAHONE'S

Half-price nachos (3 p.m.), half-price glasses of wine, \$4 Goose Island 312 pints; 333 S. Wells St. 312-566-9100.

ROCKS LINCOLN PARK

Half-price bottles of wine, half-price appetizers (5-8 p.m.); 1301 W. Schubert Ave. 773-472-7738.

SILVER CLOUD

8 p.m.: Ben Kweller CD release party. Listen to tracks from the indiefolk rock musician's fourth album, "Changing Horses." Includes CD raffles and \$2 beer cans. No cover; 1700 N. Damen Ave. 773-489-6212.

SOIREE

\$3 cocktails; 2438 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-477-8880.

SONOTHEQUE

\$5 PBR bottles with Maker's Mark shots; 1444 W. Chicago Ave. 312-226-7600.

TRYST

\$2 domestic bottles, \$3 Stoli cocktails; 3485 N. Clark St. 773-755-3980.

VILLAINS

Half-price appetizers, \$4 Lagunitas bottles and drafts; 649 S. Clark St. 312-356-9992.

WABASH TAP

\$3.75 import bottles, \$4.50 Italian beef sandwiches; 1233 S. Wabash Ave. 312-360-

CINNERS

\$2 well drinks; 4757 N. Talman Ave. 773-654-1624.

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thechicagocouncil.org/goat

MAXED OUT

\$2 Canadian Club cocktails and Bio Grande Organic Lager pints; 2771 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-472-2771.

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\$3 cocktails, \$5 Angus burgers; 3001 N. Ashland Ave. 773-248-0990

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The global financial crisis is not likely to end any time soon.

U.K. investment and commercial bank failings, to turmoil in

the currency markets, to seesawing costs of fuel and food.

\$5 for a house shot and a select beer; 1565 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-365-9000.

THE FRANKLIN TAP

\$5 Patron Silver margaritas, \$5 martinis; 325 S. Franklin St. 312-212-3262.

GANNON'S PUB

MEDIA SUPPORT

\$2.75 beer bottles, \$3 burgers with drink; 4264 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-281-1007.

GARRETT RIPLEY'S

Half-price bottles of wine; 712 N. Clark St. 312-642-2900.

THE GLOBE PUB

\$4 Beamish drafts, \$7 chicken fajitas, pub quiz at 8 p.m. \$5 for quiz; 1934 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-871-3757.

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Finding The Fray

The Denver Post

Argue about the Fray all you want. One thing's for sure: They're one of pop music's major players.

The Denver band's 2005 debut, "How to Save a Life," moved 2.3 million units, snagged a pair of Grammy nominations and became a radio and TV staple thanks to the propulsive single "Over My Head (Cable Car)" and the title track. Their current single, "You Found Me," is racing toward platinum, aided by its placement in ABC's often-run, one-minute "Lost" promo.

But with a hotly anticipated album dropping Tuesday, the stakes could scarcely be higher. Epic Records has great expectations for the self-titled disc.

"Obviously the pressure was on everybody's minds and everybody talked about it outside the band environment," singer Isaac Slade said. "We couldn't ignore it, but we managed to keep it outside of the creative process for the most part. We'd think about it in the morning when we drove to the studio, but the actual creation of the album all came down to

Indeed, Slade and his band have built a reputation over the years for their devotion to the creative process. The story of the Fray isn't one of drugs, fistfights and bus accidents. In fact, the Fray makes your average folk-rockers look like Motley Crue. Joe King, the Fray's 28-yearold co-founder, is married with two daughters. He met Slade (27, also married) at Denver's



Faith Christian Academy, and the band occasionally is pegged as a Christian act.

"There's some element of spirituality there," guitarist and sometime singer King said of current single. "We had friends going through some horrible tragedies during that time period, so it kind of reflected that.'

The earnestness of their songs also has made the Fray convenient critical targets - "Coldplay-lite" and "inoffensive pop-rock." Rolling Stone slapped the new album with a two-star rating, charging: "The Fray are going for introspection and dramatic sweep but don't rise above bland pleasantries."

They've never been critical darlings, sure, but their reputation for relentlessly test-driving songs comes honestly.

"The only thing we wanted for sure with this album was for it to be artistically better," King said.

Metromix's top shows

56 HOPE ROAD, HERBERT WISER BAND

8 p.m. \$6. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869

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9 p.m. \$7. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

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7 p.m. Free. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston. 847-864-1679.

CHARLIE LOVE BLUES BAND WITH NELLIE TRAVIS

9 p.m. \$8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100

DEE ALEXANDER QUARTET

8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

DEEP BLUE ORGAN TRIO

9 p.m. \$6. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

DEVIL IN A WOODPILE

9:30 p.m. Free. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

JOE BARR, **JOANNA CONNOR**

9:30 p.m. \$12. Kingston Mines, 2548 N. Halsted St. 773-477-4646.

JOE MOSS

9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-

JOEL PATERSON TRIO

12:15 p.m. Free. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. 312-744-6630.

JORDAN BASKIN TRIO WITH DR. ODIES WILLIAMS

7 p.m. \$10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

JOSE VALDES LATIN JAZZ TRIO

8 p.m. Free. Green Dolphin Street, 2200 N. Ashland Ave. 773-395-0066.

LORNA BOSTON BAND

10:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

LOSING SCARLET, CUT AND RUN, PHAROHS **OF RHYTHM**

8:15 p.m. \$7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

THE NECKS

7 p.m. Free. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. 312-744-6630.

PETE GALANIS AND FRIENDS

9:30 p.m. \$7. Rosa's Lounge, 3420 W. Armitage Ave. 773-342-

PROFESSOR JOHN AND NICOLE KESTLER

8:30 p.m. \$5. Katerina's, 1920 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-348-7592.

SEXFIST

10 p.m. Free. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-274-5463.

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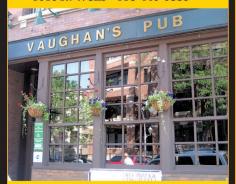


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FEBRUARY 3, 2009 I REDEYE

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By Ryan Smith | FOR REDEYE

When Cecilia Angeton wants a productive workout, she doesn't run, swim or do aerobic exercises. The 31-year-old banker from the South Loop said she gets far better results by going slow. More specifically—slowly pumping iron.

"I enjoy those other activities but I wasn't seeing a whole lot of fat loss from it," Angeton said. "But after six weeks of [slow weight training] my pants have felt looser all over and there is definitely more muscle definition."



Dr. Irvin Wierman (right) is timed by PhysioLife dietitian Melissa Li during a workout recently. Wierman, a plastic surgeon, is attracted by the efficiency and time-saving element of Super Slow. "For someone who is busy, 25 minutes is a really convenient workout," Wierman said. "I do Ironman and I swim and do martial arts and I'm used to sweating a lot when I work out, but for this I can throw my clothes on and then go see patients after I'm done." STACIE FREUDENBERG FOR REDEYE

Angeton is a recent convert preaching the virtues of slowly lifting weights as a means to overall fitness. Dubbed "Super Slow" because the reps last 10 to 12 seconds instead of the conventional three to five, the method trademarked by Florida fitness guru Ken Hutchins more than 20 years.

It's gaining trend status again, some local trainers say.

PhysioLife Studios, a facility devoted strictly to Super Slow, opened in the Gold Coast in December. Trainers there and at CityWide SuperSlow, the city's first gym to teach Hutchins' method, say they've seen a recent uptick in popularity.

"It's definitely becoming trendy, though I wouldn't call it a fad because it's been around for awhile and it works, but we're seeing more people interested in it," said Debbie Hidalgo, owner of PhysioLife Studios.

Proponents of the method say it has an advantage over regular weight-training techniques because it puts more strain on the muscles, thus burning calories faster. Super Slow trainers say two intense 20- to 30-

GO SLOW PhysioLife Studios

712 N. Dearborn St.: 312-255-8308

CityWide SuperSlow 1901 N. Clybourn Ave; 773-281-7569

minute sessions a week provide the equivalent of cardiovascular activities like running and cycling.

"To get fit in under an hour a week is amazing," said Denise Morton, coowner and trainer at CityWide. "There's a misconception out there that if a little is good a lot is better. But you don't have to spend hours a day on this."

The goal of Super Slow is to work muscles into total exhaustion or "failure" in two- to three-minute intervals to create small tears in them. When those muscles rebuild, proponents say, they come back stronger and more defined. To reach this muscle exhaustion, however, means doing intense and often painful exercises on specially designed weight machines.

"This is the hardest workout there is. People often feel the burn of their

muscles and back off but we also believe that you must have intensity to see results," Morton said.

Despite the hype, many fitness experts doubt that Super Slow is the solution for pumping the nation into shape. According to Dr. Thayne Munce, a kinesiology and nutrition professor at UIC, many of the claims made about Super Slow "are false, misleading or at the very least greatly exaggerated."

"The view that Super Slow training is the be-all, end-all of exercise indicates ignorance of the existing scientific literature and/or a misunderstanding of basic principles of training and exercise physiology," said Munce, who added that Super Slow also is not a good substitute for traditional cardiovascular exercise.

Hidalgo acknowledges that the slow method isn't a cure-all, but says it's still worth the effort.

"It's not a magic pill that you can swallow to make you instantly lose 10 pounds and be 10 times healthier, that's not what were promising," she said. "But if you balance this with good nutrition you'll see a lot of benefits."

RYAN SMITHIS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



My slow start The old workout cliche goes something like "no pain, no

The old workout cliche goes something like "no pain, no gain." The theory behind Super Slow workouts seems to be "a lot of pain, a lot of gain."

After huffing and puffing and straining my way through sessions with personal trainers at CityWide SuperSlow and PhysioLife Studios, my muscles often felt like oatmeal. My trainers started me out on a short run of four different machines used to work out major muscle groups—thighs, abs/lower back and shoulders/arms.

On my next visit, machines were added to my circuit. We nearly sprinted from machine to machine, and my trainer saw it as an encouraging sign that I nearly dropped my chest press bars out of exhaustion.

After five sessions of Super Slow, I didn't become a chiseled Adonis, but I did feel a bit firmer and stronger, especially in my shoulders and biceps. RYANSMITH (PICTURED ABOVE WITH PHYSIOLIFE DIETITIAN MELISSALI)

24 poppicks



Fringe 8 p.m. Tuesday, Fox

FBI Special Agent Olivia Dunham (Anna Torv) investigates a mystery that brings her close to the truth about her supposedly slain FBI partner and lover, John Scott. "The upcoming storylines do answer some questions that linger in my mind," said Mark Valley, who plays Scott. "[Like] who he's been working for. It confirms the verity of his feelings for Olivia." CURT WAGNER, REDEYE

» For more from Mark Valley, go to redeyechicago.com/showpatrol



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of drinking one cup of coffee or downing 1.25 energy drinks. As for the flavor: You'd swear the squares came from a box of chocolates, but beware of a slight aftertaste. **LEONOR VIVANCO, REDEYE**



GADGETS

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Even underwater, music on this waterproof mp3 player sounds deeper and richer

than when listening through waterproof earphones to a regular mp3 player. On the downside, the only way to hold the SwiMP3 securely is to attach it to goggles.

ERIC GWINN, TRIBUNE



DVD

Zack and Miri Make a Porno

DVD set, \$29.95; Blu-ray, \$34.99

The DVD release of the foul-mouthed romcom starring Seth Rogen and

Elizabeth Banks as roommates who star in an amateur skin flick offers a huge batch of deleted scenes, outtakes and bloopers. Also, Rogen and co-star Justin Long do some improvisational duels. DAVID GERMAIN, AP

Local Doctor's "Bail-Out For Back Pain?"

My name is Dr. Ingham and, I think you may want to call me after reading this. If so, my number is 773-769-2225. And if you'd like to visit me, my Chiropractic office is located at 4552 N. Magnolia right here in Chicago. That's right across the street from Starbuck's and two blocks west of Broadway.

You see, if you are suffering with back pain and want reliable, affordable relief - whether you have health insurance or not...then this may be the most exciting message you ever read.

Here's why: If you are anything like me...you are fed up. Sick and tired of working hard and playing by the rules only to have it all instantly destroyed by greed and incompetence.

Now that our economy is sinking faster than the Titanic - the parties responsible have gotten a government "bail-out." And it looks like it's going to be at the tax-payers expense.

So let me ask you a question: Who's going to "bail-out" the people footing the bill? Who's going to help YOU when you need it most?

It seems to me relying on anyone but yourself is risky business these days.

Of course...I can't solve all the economic problems out there. But I can do my part to help out. And that's why I've decided to offer a "Bail-Out For Back Pain" for you. And here's how it works

If you suffer with back pain, I want to give you an opportunity to get better as fast and for the least cost possible. And make it very convenient for you, too.

How? When you come into my office, I will give you a free consultation to determine what's wrong and the best way to possibly get you out of pain. That is why we get so many referrals and why our office is so packed with local patients who want out of pain fast.

Here's what to do right now: All you have to do is give us a call at 773-769-2225 and when Oscar or Lenny answer the phone tell them you want your "Back Pain Bailout" and they will give you an appointment that fits into your schedule. We can see you the same day you call if you like. Your consultation is 100% free and you will have an opportunity to ask me any question you want. And I will explain what I think the next step for you should be. There is no obligation and you will not be pressured to begin care. With all the deception going on out there, I'm sure you've lost faith. This is your opportunity to see if I can help you. It's as simple as that. Call us at 773-769-2225.

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■ The Uninvited (PG-13) 1:30,3:45,6:00,8:15,10:45 ■ Underworld (R) 2:30,5:30,8:00,10:30 ■ Notorious (R) 2:15,3:15,5:15,6:15,8:30,9:30 ■ AMC Select Gran Torino (R) 1:50,4:40,7:30,10:20

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)

(716) 303 4043 = Che (NR) 1:30,7:15 = Revo Road (R) 2:00,4:50,6:30,7:45,10:30 = The Reader (R) 3:15,10:00 = Milk (R) 1:30,4:30,7:30,10:20 = Slumdog Mill (R) 1:45,3:00,4:40,7:40,9:20,10:30 = Doubt (PG-13) 1:55,4:45,7:35,10:10

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■ AMC Select **Gran Torino** (R) 1:55,4:30,7:10,9:45

■ The Unborn (PG-13) 2:20,4:45,7:05,9:10 ■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 9:00 P.M.

AMC Select - The best specialty films

■ Taken (PG-13) 1:35,3:40,5:40,7:50,10:00

■ Hotel for Dogs (PG) 1:45,4:20,6:50,9:20

Notorious (R) 1:30.2:30.4:10.5:30.7:00.8:20.9:45

■ The Uninvited (PG-13) 1:35,2:40,3:45,5:00,6:20,7:20,8:40,9:40

■ Underworld (R) 1:40,2:45,4:15,5:20,6:40,7:45,9:00,9:55

Gran Torino (R) 5:00.7:40.10:00

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

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■ Inkheart (PG) 1:30.3:50.6:15

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■ Dear Zachary (NR) 6:00,8:00

■ Alexandria Agn (NR) 8:00

■ Empire-Passion (R) 6:00

LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago

(773) 252-0628 ■ Valkyrie (PG-13) 1:55,4:05,6:15,8:30

■ Bedtime Stories (PG) 2:10,4:10,6:15,8:20

■ Tale of Desp (G) 2:05,4:05,6:10,8:10 ■ Twilight (PG-13) 2:00,4:15,6:25,8:40

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■ The Uninvited (PG-13) ★ 9:50,12:20,2:50,5:30,7:50,10:20

■ Taken (PG-13) ★ 10:00,12:30,3:20,6:20,7:10,9:00,9:50

■ Inkheart (PG) ★ 10:30,1:00,3:40,6:30,9:10

Underworld (R) ★ 11:00,1130,120;210,4:10,5:00,6:40,7:30,9:20,1:00

■ Hotel for Dogs (PG) 10:20,12:50,3:50,6:50,9:30

■ Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 11:20,12:10,1:50,2:40,4:30,5:15,7:40,10:10

My Bloody Val (R) 11:10,1:10,1:40,4:20,4:50,7:00,8:00,9:40,10:40

■ Notorious (R) 3:10,6:05,8:50

■ Bride Wars (PG) 10:16,1:245

■ The Unborn (PG-13) 6:45,9:15

■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 10:50,2:30,6:10,9:45

■ Marley & Me (PG) 10:10,12:40,3:30

■ Gran Torino (R) 10:40,1:30,4:20,7:20,1:030

DAVIS ■ THE ATDE (VALUE)

MUSIC BOX 3733 N. Southport, Chicago

(773) 871-6604

■ The Wrestler (R) 5:15,7:30,9:45

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)

■ AMC Select The Wrestler (R) 2:25,4:05,5:00,6:45,7:45 ■ AMC Select Waltz-Bashir (R) 3:25,5:45,8:00 ■ AMC Select Vicky Cristina (PG-13) 1:50 P.M. ■ AMC Select Rachel Getting (R) 2:00,4:40,7:20

322 E. Illinois Street

Show times change daily

Taken (PG-13) 1:40,4:20,7:00,9:35

AMC Select Milk (R) 1:30,4:35,7:40,10:40

New in Town (PG) 2:50,5:40,8:30

Inkheart (PG) 4:20,10:35

AMC Select Frost/Nixton (R) 1:25,4:30,7:35,10:35

AMC Select Frost/Nixton (R) 1:25,4:30,7:35,10:35

AMC Select Frost/Nixton (R) 1:25,4:30,7:35,10:35

AMC Select Slumdog Mill (R) 1:00,2:00,4:00,5:00,7:15,8:15,10:30

Underworld (R) 2:30,5:15,8:00,10:45

AMC Select The Wrestler (R) 1:45,4:45,7:45,10:00,10:45

AMC Select Last-Harvey (PG-13) 1:40,4:25,7:05,9:50

Hotel for Dogs (PG) 1:00,3:30,6:05,8:40

Blart: Mail Cop (PG) 1:15,3:45,6:15,8:45

My Bloody Val (R) 4:20,0:4,40,7:30,10:20

AMC Select Defiance (R) 1:10,10:40

AMC Select The Reader (R) 1:10,10:40

■ AMC Select Defiance (R) 1:10,10:40
■ AMC Select The Reader (R) 1:10,4:10,7:10,10:10
■ AMC Select Gran Torino (R) 2:05,5:10,8:20
■ Bride Wars (PG) 3:05,5:03,8:05,1045
■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2:40,6:30,10:15
■ AMC Select Doubt (PG-13) 1:50,4:30,7:25,10:15
■ AMC Select Rachel Getting (R) 1:05,3:50

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)

7000 Carperter Rd., Skokie (800) 326-3264 #2309

New in Town (PG) ★ 11:40,2:20,5:10,7:50,10:15 A.M.

The Uninvited (PG-13) ★ 12:50,3:10,6:05,8:20,10:40 P.M.

Taken (PG-13) ★ 1:30,4:40,5:30,7:10,8:10,9:30,10:35 P.M.

Inkheart (PG) ★ 1:00,3:50,6:50,9:50 P.M.

Underworld (P) ★ 1:00,2:50,6:50,9:50 P.M.

Underworld (P) ★ 1:00,2:10,3:40,4:45,5:45,7:45,9:10,10:25 P.M.

Hotel for Dogs (PG) 12:40,3:20,6:10,8:40 P.M.

Defiance (R) 11:50,3:00,6:20,9:20 A.M.

Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 11:30,1:50,4:10,6:40,9:00 A.M.

My Bloody Val (R) 1:40,4:20,7:00,9:40 P.M.

G - General audience PG - Parental guidence suggested
 PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
 R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian

■ Notorious (R) 8:30 P.M.

■ Notorious (R) 8:30 P.M.
■ Bride Wars (PG) 12:00.2:30.5:00,7:40,10:00 P.M.
■ Revo Road (R) 1:45,4:50,7:30,10:10 P.M.
■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 12:15,4:00,8:15 P.M.
■ Bedtime Stories (PG) 12:20,2:50 P.M.
■ Marley & Me (PG) 2:00,5:15 P.M.
■ Gran Torino (R) 1:20,4:30,7:20,10:05 P.M.
■ The Wrestler (R) 11:45,2:40,5:20,8:00,10:20 A.M.
■ Slumdog Mill (R) 12:30,3:30,6:30,9:15 P.M.

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES) 1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago

(800) 326-3264 #1641

■ New in Town (PG) ★ 11:50,2:30,5:10,7:40,10:10 A.M. ■ Taken (PG-13) ★ 11:15,1:45,4:20,7:00,10:00 ■ Defiance (R) 11:45,3:00,6:30,9:40

■ Bride Wars (PG) 11:30,1:50,4:15,6:50,9:15 A.M. ■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 11:00,12:50,2:40,4:30,6:10,8:09,9:45 A.M. ■ Gran Torino (R) 11:10,12:40,2:15,3:30,5:00,6:40,7:50,9:30,10:30 A.M. ■ Frost/Nixon (R) 10:45,1:40,4:40,7:30,10:15 A.M.

SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave.

(800) 326-3264 #1646

■ The Uninvited (PG-13) 2:15,4:50,7:20,9:50 ■ Taken (PG-13) 1:20,4:00,6:30,9:15 P.M. ■ Inkheart (PG) 12:50,3:50,6:45,9:20 P.M.

■ Inkheart (PG) 12:50,3:50,6:45,9:20 P.M.
Underworld (R) 1:00,1:50,3:30,4:15,6:10,7:00,9:00,9:30 P.M.
Hotel for Dogs (PG) 2:00,4:40,7:15,9:55 P.M.
Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 1:30,4:20,7:10,9:40 P.M.
Notorious (R) 12:30,3:15,6:05,8:50 P.M.
My Bloody Val (R) 1:40,4:10,6:40,9:10
Not Easily (PG-13) 2:30,5:00,7:45,1:0:20 P.M.
The Unborn (PG-13) 1:10,3:40,6:20,8:40 P.M.
Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2:40,6:15,9:45 P.M.
Doubt (PG-13) 1:240,8:45,8:50,1000 P.M.

■ Doubt (PG-13) 12:40,3:45,6:50,10:00 P.M. ■ Gran Torino (R) 1:45,4:30,7:30,10:15

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES) 4779 W. Cermak

(800) 326-3264 #1644

The Uninvited (PG-13) * 2:15,4:50,7:20,9:50 P.M.

Taken (PG-13) * 1:20,4:00,6:30,9:15 P.M.

Taken (PG-13) * 1:20,4:00,6:30,9:15 P.M.

Inkheart (PG) * 1:25,3:50,6:45,9:20 P.M.

Underworld (R) * 1:00,1:50,3:30,4:15,6:10,7:00,9:00,9:30 P.M.

Hotel for Dogs (PG) 2:00,4:40,7:15,9:55 P.M.

Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 1:30,4:20,7:10,9:40 P.M.

■ My Bloody Val (R) 1:40,4:10,6:40,9:10 P.M. ■ Not Easily (PG-13) 5:00,7:45,10:20 P.M. ■ The Unborn (PG-13) 1:10,3:40,6:20,8:40 P.M. ■ The Reader (R) 12:40,3:45,6:50,10:00 P.M.

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES) (contil Notorious (R) 12:30,3:15,6:05,8:50 P.M.

Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2:40,6:15,9:45 P.M.
 Bedtime Stories (PG) 2:30 P.M.

■ Gran Torino (R) 1:45,4:30,7:30,10:15 P.M.

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC) 630-444-FILM #560

■ Taken (PG-13) 1:05,3:15,5:25,7:35,9:45 ■ Revo Road (R) 1:30,4:15,7:00,9:35 ■ The Wrestler (R) 12:15,2:35,4:50,7:10,9:30

■ Hotel for Dogs (PG) 12:00,2:15,4:30,6:45 ■ My Bloody Val (R) 12:45,3:00,5:15,7:40,10:00

Gran Torino (R) 12:00.2:30.5:00.7:30.10:00 ■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 9:00 P.M. ■ Slumdog Mill (R) 2:00,4:40,7:20,10:00

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Where to go for entertainment? Start here.

What to Watch

Whovile BY WALSH

the tweet life

Is John Mayer up to his old tricks?

Maybe. Maybe not.

"Access Hollywood" is reporting that a Twitter account they link to the singer is posting tweets that sound like engagement talk.

"Visiting the Diamond Exchange in Tustin," read one post by johncmayer two days ago. "Welding an engagement ring for my girlfriend," read another. Really? Welding?

At any rate, RedEye isn't ready to weigh in on whether these posts supposedly from Mayer—a notorious prankster—are legit. And don't even get us started on whether he's talking about on-again-off-again gal pal Jennifer Aniston. While we wait for things to pan out, here's our best guess at what Mayer's Twitter page would look like if he and Aniston were in fact getting together.

Join today!

Already using Twitter? Follow us at **twitter.com/ redeyechicago**



johnmayer

She said YESSSSS!!!

31 minutes ago from web

OK, John, it's now or never. This is it. about 2 hours ago from TwitterBerry

That went well. about 12 hours ago from TwitterBerry

Dinner and a movie ... with a twist. about 15 hours ago from TwitterBerry

Hey paparazzi, get ready for something BIG! about 13 hours ago from TwitterBerry

Oh where, oh where has my little Jen gone? about 13 hours ago from TwitterBerry

Leaving on a jet plane, don't know when I'll be back again ... about 20 hours ago from TwitterBerry

Ring? Check. Suit? Check. Outrageously well-rehearsed proposal? Double check. 1 day ago from web

I can't believe Whole Foods is out of arugula. 1 day ago from web

Go Steelers! 2 day ago from TwitterBerry

Who has time to practice when you're working on a proposal? 2 days ago from web

Mall parking sux. 2 days ago from web

Going to the jewelry store for the last time. 2 days ago from TwitterBerry

TWITTER AND MARRIAGE

Is John Mayer really thinking about proposing to Jennifer Aniston? We asked our RedEye Twitter followers to weigh in on reports he's apparently discussing it on Twitter.

@RoxieRavenclaw |

think he's just effing with our heads. Or the media's collective head, anyway. :/

@paigeworthy Gag.

@calebgardner If that's true, what a fantastic way to ruin a proposal.

@stratodavius She better say yes. Look at what happened to the last one he let go (Jessica Simpson)!

@DiffractionMade

that's what happens when celebrities get a word-a-day calendar

@johnroa I care so much, I almost passed out

-COMPILED BY SCOTT KLEINBERG



poppuzzies FEBRUARY 3, 2009 ▮ REDEYE

txtable



Acne Treatments

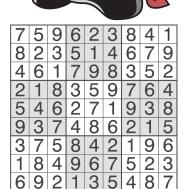
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MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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ACROSS

- Dog on "Family Guy" Cruise and Mix "Mephisto Waltz" star
- Permissible
- Dunkable treat

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- "The best _ plans..."
- Renovated Little devils
- Disarming charm
- Edinburgh man ld companion
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Come together

- Salsa, e.g. Spots on TV
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- Real estate accounts
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- Kitty lures
- Turner or Mack In vain
- Moines Sothern and Sheridan
- Joke or choke
- 36 37 Easy as
- Neighbor of Swed. 38
- Fine-tuned
- 42 Part of TNT Cellular phone attachment
- Ford and Clay
- 46 LSD, for short
- Debonair
- Burst of fire Climatic region
- Big time
- Heavy-hearted
- Risk
 - Obtained

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DIFFICULTY RATING:



28 REDEYE I TUESDAY

redhot

Too hot for TV?

"I thought I blew it."

That's Super Bowl-winning quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's take on his game-winning pass Sunday night for the Pittsburgh Steelers. Big Ben told David Letterman on Monday night on his show that when he let the ball go in the final seconds of the game, he initially thought it would be intercepted, and that "the game was over."

Turns out the game was over, and Roethlisberger's Steelers had won, thanks to a nifty catch by receiver Santonio Holmes. Good thing for Big Ben, considering that an average of 95.4 million people watched NBC's telecast of the game, according to Nielsen Media Research, making it the second-most-watched Super Bowl ever.

But not everything went smoothly Sunday. In a moment sure to eclipse Nipplegate in Arizona, cable provider Comcast apologized Monday to Tucson-area customers who experienced a 30-second interruption of hard-core porn during the big game. The interruption apparently happened only on TV sets tuned to the standard (not high) definition broadcast. Comcast said it is conducting an investigation.





txtable

Sink or swim?

Will the bong scandal hurt Michael Phelps' career? Text "**phelps**" and the number of your answer to **47383**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

- **1.** I'm with Ashton—what's the big deal? He's an Olympic champion.
- **2.** Bad move—he's a world-class athlete and should act like one.

Pot shot

Ashton Kutcher thinks people are overreacting to photos showing Olympic champ Michael Phelps smoking marijuana. "God forbid he hit a bong," Kutcher Twittered on Monday. "Go ask your 20-year-old kid what they did last weekend." He added: "I'm not saying it was a smart move. But he doesn't have to be publicly outed for it."

» Sponsors support Phelps. PAGE 3

THE VELVET ROPE



Blagojevich

Wrestler mania

You can count pro wrestler Kurt Angle among the many entertainers trying to get a piece of the Rod Blagojevich

action these days. On Monday Angle and TNA Wrestling offered the former governor the newly created position of chairman of what it calls its "Main Event Mafia" faction, according to a news release on TNA's Web site. Angle graciously noted, however, that Blagojevich "is innocent until proven guilty."



Bale

Going Bale-istic?

Sounds like "The Dark Knight" star Christian Bale might have more damage control to do. The actor reportedly is heard delivering

a totally-not-safe-for-work rant against a director of photography on the set of his next blockbuster, "Terminator: Salvation."

Tmz.com reported that the incident happened last summer. But it was caught on tape and sent to an insurance company in the event that he quit the movie—as Bale, if it is indeed him on the recording, is heard threatening during the blistering tirade.

What the heli?

You've heard of driving erratically? Well, Motley Crue drummer Tommy Lee was in a helicopter that allegedly was flying erratically. Pilot David Martz allegedly flew too close to an LAPD helicopter and was forced to land, **tmz.com** reports. Martz later took a blood alcohol test that proved "inconclusive," and he was not charged with any crime, nor was Lee.

4/16/10

Chicago's getting its own Comic Con: the Comic & Entertainment Expo, set for April of 2010 at McCormick Place's Lakeside Center, the Tribune reported. Comic Con regularly brings Hollywood stars together with tons of fanboys and fangirls.



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